

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 24-41 without prejudice.

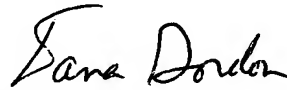
Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If a telephone conversation with Applicants' Agent would expedite prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at (617) 832-1000.

Foley, Hoag & Eliot LLP
One Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109
Telephone: (617) 832-1000

Date: 11/1/01

Respectfully submitted,
Patent Group


Dana M. Gordon, PhD, JD
Registration No. 44,719
Agent for Applicants